

up to 26 years old, all will be decimated because the Trump administration is in the Supreme Court in a case that will be argued on November 10 seeking to destroy it. That protection for pre-existing conditions will be gone, in part because this new Justice, we know, is committed to eliminating it. How do we know? Because the President himself has said a strong test will be applied. So those groups, like the Federalist Society and the Heritage Foundation and others who do the vetting and screening for this administration—the choice has been outsourced to them—have vetted and screened that short list, and every one of them you can bet has passed that test.

The second part of that test is women's reproductive rights. Donald Trump has said another part of that strong test will be overturning *Roe v. Wade*. Now, I was a law clerk to Justice Harry Blackmun in the 1974-1975 term right after *Roe* was decided. So I have lived with the efforts to overturn *Roe*. I have fought against those efforts. I have seen the campaigns in the State legislatures, and they are even more present and threatening than ever before.

The threat to *Roe v. Wade* is very much with us. In fact, we were concerned even after the last Supreme Court decision on reproductive rights that, in fact, *Roe* was in danger. Just 3 months ago, we held our breath waiting for the Supreme Court decision in *June Medical Services v. Russo*, the latest attack on reproductive rights, because we knew there was more than a chance that the Court could strip away those rights from women across the country. The Court on the slimmest of margins upheld *Roe*—the narrowest of legal readings. It was a landmark legal victory against the radical politicians who continue to attack reproductive rights notwithstanding *Roe v. Wade*, but those principles of *Roe* are now more in danger than ever before.

The administration and the Republican majority, instead of dealing with this pandemic, are rushing to approve a nominee who would decimate protections for women's reproductive rights. And there will be real consequences for real people, as there are in many other rights that would be at stake and at risk—voting rights, marriage equality, gun violence protections, civil rights and civil liberties, and protection against gender discrimination, the threat to protection from preexisting conditions like cancer, substance abuse disorder, diabetes, kidney disease, Parkinson's or pregnancy, and now, for an increasing number of Americans, COVID is most striking.

An example is Conner from Ridgefield, CT. I have spoken about him previously on the floor. Several years ago, Conner was diagnosed with Duchenne muscular dystrophy. It is a degenerative, life-threatening disease with no cure. He was 4 years old when he was diagnosed. His parents sought treatment and learned it would cost

tens of thousands of dollars each year, which they couldn't afford, but because of the protections for people from pre-existing conditions, it was a life saved. Conner is in school. Conner is thriving. Conner is a fighter, just as Ruth Bader Ginsburg was a fighter. Conner never gave up, and neither did Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Conner endured the harsh reality of physical illness and emotional trauma. And Ruth Bader Ginsburg reached out to people like Conner and offered them hope. She reached out to women and she inspired a whole new generation of women and many of us know them because they are women in our families who decided to pursue a career in law because of her example. She was small in stature, soft in voice, but she packed a powerful punch, even before she was a rock star and a pop icon, because she never gave up. She was a fighter. We cannot give up now.

We must fight for a process that is fair and gives the next President and the next Senate the choice about the next Supreme Court justice. That was Ruth Bader Ginsburg's dying wish. We should fight for that principle because it is a matter of fairness. It is a matter of people keeping their word.

In this place, there are almost no unwritten rules. There are no written rules. There are more unwritten rules, and one of those rules is people keep their word. So we need to fight and make sure that the legacy of Ruth Bader Ginsburg is upheld, that these constitutional principles that matter in the real lives of real people are upheld, and we cannot give up. Her memory should always inspire us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 8337

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 8337) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

Ms. ERNST. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

REMEMBERING JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleagues in mourn-

ing an American hero, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. We called Ruth Bader Ginsburg the "Notorious RBG," and we called her that for a reason. She lived an inspiring and historic life, and her advocacy and public service changed America for the better.

As a lawyer and a public servant and as a woman, I owe so much to Justice Ginsburg, and I know I am not alone. I join so many women in this body and across this Nation who will simply not allow for Ruth Bader Ginsburg's legacy to be diminished or disrespected.

Today, that means standing up and speaking out about what is at stake right now in this country. We are 8 months into a global pandemic—the worst public health crisis of our lifetime. It has taken 200,000 American souls and cost millions of Americans their jobs and their economic security.

Now, President Trump knew that this pandemic was deadly, and he refused to take decisive action early in order to control the virus. He still has no plan to this day, and he has refused to lead. He has continued to put politics over science, and he still insists the virus will just go away.

In fact, this pandemic will not just go away, and in Wisconsin and in States across our country, things continue to get worse. As our Nation fights this unprecedented public health crisis, President Trump continues his efforts, spanning the past 4 years, to sabotage our healthcare system and make it harder for people to get the coverage that they want and that they desperately need.

Since the President took office, more and more Americans are going without health insurance with each passing year. More than 6 million American workers have lost access to their employer-sponsored health insurance since the very beginning of this pandemic.

Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, they have a safety net in place that allows them to sign up for a healthcare plan while they are unemployed. But right now, we should be making it easier, not harder, for people to get healthcare. We should be building on the progress that we made with the Affordable Care Act by providing additional support for the navigators and those who provide enrollment assistance. We should be extending open enrollment and making sure that Americans know that they have options for comprehensive coverage.

But, instead, President Trump has doubled down in his support for a Federal lawsuit to eliminate the Affordable Care Act completely, including the protections for millions upon millions of Americans who have pre-existing health conditions. And, mind you, a positive test for COVID-19 is a preexisting condition.

Let me say that again. During the worst public health crisis of our lifetimes, President Trump and Republicans support a Federal lawsuit to eliminate the Affordable Care Act completely—taking healthcare away from